

Remarks

This is a reply to the Official Action dated December 7, 2009.

An amended abstract has been provided to meet the requirement of the Examiner.

Claims 32, 34-35, 41 and 43-44 have been rewritten in independent form as suggested by the Examiner to place the claims in condition for allowance. All other claims have been canceled.

Further, the claims have been amended to overcome all objections and 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections.

No new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised. The amendments were not presented earlier since prior to the last official action, it was not clear which claims could be written in independent form to place them in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that all claims are now in condition for allowance, which action is courteously requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MLD/RCA/mjk